

Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-07 SS-20 SP-03 PM-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /085 W

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R 280633Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 896

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 5940

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: CHIANG CHING PROTEGE NAMED CULTURAL GROUP DEPUTY DIRECTOR

REF: HONG KONG 5899

1. THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT LEADERSHIP CHANGE IN THE PRC'S CULTURAL GROUP, WHICH OVERSEAS THE ARTS AND LITERATURE OF CHINA. PLA FIGURE AND TSINGHAI PROVINCE CHIEF LIU HSIEN-CHUAN, WHO HAD BEEN THE GROUP'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR SINCE SHORTLY AFTER IT WAS FORMED, HAD APPARENTLY BEEN REPLACED. LIU, WHO HAS BEEN LONG BASED IN PEKING, HAS BEEN SEEN ONLY ONCE SINCE THE BLACK OPERA "THREE VISITS TO TAOFENG" WAS EXPOSED IN LATE FEBRUARY, FOLLOWING ITS PERFORMANCE AT A CULTURAL GROUP FESTIVAL IN PEKING. LIU MAY BE HAVING TO PAY FOR THE CULTURAL GROUP'S ALLOWING THE WORK TO BE STAGED.

2. LIU'S REPLACEMENT IS YU HUI-YUNG, WHO WAS IDENTIFIED AS CULTURAL GROUP DEPUTY DIRECTOR AT A PEKING CONCERT GIVEN FOR VISITING EX-BRITISH PRIME MINISTER HEATH (NCNA MAY 26). YU IS VERY CLOSE TO CHIANG CHING, AND HIS APPOINTMENT

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INCREASES MADAME MAO'S ALREADY DOMINANT INFLUENCE ON CHINESE ART

(REFTEL). HE WORKED WITH HER ON THE COMPOSITION OF AT LEAST TWO REVOLUTIONARY OPERAS, "TAKING TIGER MOUNTAIN BY STRATEGY", AND "ON THE DOCKS" (YU, THE APPARENT COMPOSER OF BOTH, WROTE IN RED FLAG THAT "EVERY WORD AND SENTENCE, EVERY TONE AND BEAT" OF THE TWO WORKS WAS "PERMEATED WITH THE PAINS TAKEN BY COMRADE CHIANG CHING," SCMM NO. 579).

3. YU WAS ONCE IN THE PLA. HE DID NOT REACH PUBLIC PROMINENCE, HOWEVER, UNTIL HIS CULTURAL REVOLUTION IDENTIFICATION WITH CHIANG CHING. NAMED TO THE PRESIDUM AT THE 1969 NINTH PARTY CONGRESS, YU ODDLY MISSED SELECTION TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE THAT YEAR. THAT OMISSION WAS RECTIFIED LAST AUGUST, WHEN YU WAS NAMED A FULL MEMBER OF THE TENTH CENTRAL COMMITTEE. YU IS ALSO REPORTEDLY THE PRESIDENT OF A NEW PEKING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE, THE MAY 7 UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS. WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE SCHOOL, BUT SPECULATE CHIANG CHING IS ASSOCIATED WITH IT.
CROSS

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